GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
FINANCE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2287
ANSWERED ON:28.07.2017
Debt Recovery Tribunals
Misra Shri Ajay (Teni)

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether more than 70000 cases relating to banks debt recovery amounting to Rs. 5 lakh crores are pending with the Debt Recovery Tribunal (DRT) and if so, the details thereof;

(b) Whether the Government has fixed time limit of 180 days for the dispose of the said cases by amending the law in August, 2016 for ensuring early disposal of cases and if so, the details thereof;

(c) Whether the shortage of staff and resources in the DRT in proportion to the workload is the main reason for failure in achieving targets;

(d) If so, whether any study has been conducted by the Government on resources and staff before fixing the time limit for recovery of loan as per the new law; and

(e) If so, whether any time-bound action plan has been formulated by the Government to augment resources and staff in the DRT to achieve targets within the stipulated time?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE

(a) : As on 30.6.2017, there were 1,09,518 pending cases in Debts Recovery Tribunals (DRTs) relating to recovery of debts due to banks and financial institutions involving an amount of Rs. 6,35,511 crore.

(b) to (e): As per Section 19(24) of The Recovery of Debts Due to Banks and Financial Institutions (RDDBFI) Act 1993 "The application made to the Tribunal under sub-section (1) or sub- section (2) shall be dealt with by it as expeditiously as possible and every effort shall be made by it to complete the proceedings in two hearings, and to dispose of the application finally within one hundred and eighty days from the date of receipt of the application."
The provision of 180 days already existed in the RDDBFI Act prior to the amendments of August, 2016. No time limit has been fixed for recovery of loan under the RDDBFI Act (as amended).
Considering the increase in workload of the 33 DRTs existing in 2013 and the large number of cases being filed, a study was conducted. Based on the study, a proposal for setting up 6 new DRTs was approved on 10.12.2014, which has been implemented. Necessary infrastructure and staff is deployed in DRTs and action is taken to fill up vacant posts and augment resources from time to time.

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